Under Direct Taxes, a suggestion from the Ministry of Commerce was received to make a provision in the Income Tax Act to provide an incentive for investment in the Tea Industry. The suggestion has been examined and the same has not been found justified as the existing tax concessions available to the tea industry under section 32 AB and section 33 A of the Income Tax Act, are considered as adequate.

Setting up of headquarters of Brahmaputra Board

2750. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up of the headquarters of the Brahmaputra Board and its hydraulic research centre at Bashistha and North Guwahati; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Office of the Brahmaputra Board has been already shifted to Bashistha. Action for setting up the Hydraulic Research Laboratory has been initiated by the Board with target to complete the work by March, 1992.

Expenditure on Sarkaria Commission

2751. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the Sarkaria Commission during its functioning for a period of five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): The expenditure incurred on the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations upto February, 1988 amounted to Rs. 150.61 lakhs.

Setting up of Tea Authority of India

2752. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up of Tea Authority of India; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is going to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Exemption of duty on rotable snorkels imported by Delhi Fire Service

2753. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 metres high rotable snorkels imported by Delhi Fire Service are lying at Bombay Port for the last three months;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a request for 120 per cent duty exemption on the purchase has been received;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (e) The Delhi Fire Service themselves filed with Bombay Customs the necessary Bill of Entry for the clea-